

Mountain Goats & Your Safety

Mountain goats are wild animals. They have sharp, potentially lethal horns. They may use their horns to defend their personal space.



Although not usually dangerous, mountain goats in this area may approach people. Some have grown accustomed to being fed and, as a result, have lost their fear of people. This can make them more aggressive and likely to “stand their ground” if encountered on the trail.

Mountain goats also crave the salts found in human sweat and urine. They may follow people to obtain sweat soaked clothing or hiking gear.

Male goats may become particularly aggressive during the breeding season, which begins in October and continues through December.

For your safety:

- Never feed mountain goats.
 - Stay at least 50 yards (half the length of a football field) away from goats.
 - If a goat approaches, slowly move away. If it persists, chase it off by yelling, waving your arms, waving clothing, or throwing rocks.
 - Urinate on rocks, bare soil, or snow at least 50 yards from the trail.
 - Do not leave clothes or gear unattended.
- **If a mountain goat persists approaching within 50 yards, please call the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s non-emergency dangerous Wildlife complaints hotline at 877-933-9847.**
- **For emergencies call 911.**



For additional information and activity reporting, visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/olympic/goats>



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